

this was the substance. Indeed, in all I have said in relation to this conversation, I cannot give you the exact words, or the precise order in which the conversation occurred, but I cannot be mistaken in saying, I have given you the substance and the meaning of Mr. Shepard's language.

I may be pardoned for adding, that, condemning as I do most strongly, the course of Mr. Van Buren, in relation to Lieut. Hooe's case, I did hope and expect, that when I asked Mr. Shepard the questions I did, that he, although a Van Buren partizan and District Attorney of the U. States for North Carolina, but still born, education and living in a Southern State, would have joined me most heartily in reprobating the introduction of Negro testimony against white men, particularly in our own, or any other Slave-holding State. My disappointment and chagrin were great, when I saw him even hesitate upon this subject, and still greater when he expressed the sentiments I have mentioned.

I may add too, that I had not then, nor have I now, the slightest personal animosity against Mr. Shepard, nor the most remote desire to injure him personally.

Yours,

J. A. IREDELL.

No. 5.

CERTIFICATE.

We, the undersigned, do certify, that we were present at the conversation above alluded to by Gen. IREDELL, and believe his statement of it to be substantially accurate.

JNO. M. MASON,

GEO. W. MORDECAI,

WM. BOYLAN,

GEO. LITTLE,²⁹

J. A. CAMPBELL.

WM. PEACE,³⁰

BERNARD DUPUY,

JAMES LITCHFORD,³¹

GEO. W. POLK,

²⁹ George Little (1810-1876), of Raleigh, who was, prior to the Civil War, active and influential in Whig politics.

³⁰ William Peace (1773-1865), of Raleigh, educated at the university, a merchant of considerable wealth, director of the Bank of the State, founder of Peace Institute.

³¹ James J. Litchford (1825-1894), a merchant of Raleigh.